

EXHIBIT A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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MARK SNOOKAL, an individual,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
vs.)	Case No.
)	2:23-cv-6302-HDV-AJR
CHEVRON USA, INC., a California)	
Corporation, and DOES 1 through)	
10, inclusive,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
_____)	

DEPOSITION OF

DR. VICTOR ADEYEYE

Volume 1, Pages 1 - 34

Taken Remotely Via Videoconference

Friday, November 15, 2024

Stenographically reported by:
Renee M. Bencich, CSR No. 11946, RPR

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Job Number 117195

Dr. Victor Adeyeye

November 15, 2024

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Allred, Maroko & Goldberg

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Chevron Nigeria Limited

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1 Mark Snookal, the plaintiff in this case?

2 A. No notes.

3 Q. Okay. Okay. Who is your current employer?

4 A. Chevron Nigeria Limited as a contractor.

5 Q. Okay. How long have you worked for Chevron
6 Nigeria Limited?

7 A. Seven years plus.

8 Q. Okay. What's your current job title?

9 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry. One more time,
10 Doctor. The first word I did not understand.

11 THE WITNESS: Seven years -- May twenty -- May
12 2017 to date. Seven years.

13 MS. FLECHSIG: I think he said consultant
14 cardiologist --

15 THE WITNESS: May --

16 BY MS. FLECHSIG:

17 Q. -- am I correct?

18 A. May -- yes. May 2017 to date as consultant
19 physician cardiologist.

20 Q. Okay. So you've been a consultant physician
21 cardiologist since May of 2017, correct?

22 A. For Chevron.

23 Q. For Chevron.

24 Okay. Before becoming a consultant physician
25 cardiologist, what position for Chevron did you hold?

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1 Or that's when you started?

2 A. Again, please.

3 Q. Sorry. So you started -- your first job for
4 Chevron Nigeria Limited was consultant physician
5 cardiologist?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Okay. And before May of 2017 you were working
8 for a different company?

9 A. I was in a university as a consultant
10 cardiologist and lecturer.

11 Q. Understood.

12 Okay. As a consultant physician cardiologist,
13 what are your job duties?

14 A. Job duties include acute emergency management
15 for cardiovascular cases and other medical emergencies
16 in --

17 THE COURT REPORTER: May I ask the witness to
18 repeat?

19 MS. FLECHSIG: (Counsel nods head.)

20 THE COURT REPORTER: Doctor, if you'd please
21 repeat your answer.

22 THE WITNESS: Job description, management of
23 acute medical emergency and outpatient management of
24 medical cases, especially cardiovascular disease.

25 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

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1 One more time. I didn't understand one word.

2 THE WITNESS: Okay. The very case I mentioned,
3 it was dissecting eventual rupture and patient passed
4 away. The very case. In the last 10, 12 years. Thank
5 you. Before Chevron.

6 BY MS. FLECHSIG:

7 Q. Okay. I know you've said that there was an
8 autopsy conducted, so I --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- want to clarify.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. That was after you treated the patient, or were
13 you conducting -- you were conducting the autopsy?

14 A. When we conducted the autopsy. It was a
15 follow-up patient. Nothing could be done. Ruptured,
16 and that was the --

17 THE COURT REPORTER: And -- I'm sorry. May we
18 go off the record real quick?

19 MS. FLECHSIG: Yes.

20 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

21 (Off the record.)

22 (The record was read as follows:

23 QUESTION: That was after you treated the
24 patient, or were you conducting the autopsy?)

25 ANSWER: When we conducted the autopsy. It was

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1 a follow-up patient. Nothing could be done.

2 Ruptured, and that was the --)

3 THE COURT REPORTER: There was more.

4 THE WITNESS: Mortality. Death. Death.

5 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

6 BY MS. FLECHSIG:

7 Q. So was the patient alive when they first came
8 to you?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Understood.

11 Were you able to administer any treatments to
12 the patient before they passed away?

13 A. The treatment could not be given. Not
14 available.

15 Q. Understood.

16 Do you have a current curriculum vitae or a
17 resume?

18 A. Have but not updated.

19 Q. Okay. Do you know when you would have last
20 updated it?

21 A. Over a year ago.

22 Q. Have you published any medical research during
23 the last 10 years?

24 A. Two contributions to textbooks of medicine with
25 over 20 publications in local and international


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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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_____)

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION
ORAL DEPOSITION OF
DR. VICTOR ADEYEYE
Volume 1, Pages 1 - 34
Friday, November 15, 2024

I, RENÉE M. BENCICH, Certified Shorthand
Reporter in and for the State of California, hereby
certify to the following:
That the witness, DR. VICTOR ADEYEYE, was duly
sworn by the officer and that the transcript of the oral
deposition is a true record of the testimony given by
the witness;
I further certify that pursuant to FRCP Rule
30(e)(1) that the signature of the deponent:
(XX) was requested by the deponent or a party
before the completion of the deposition and returned
within 30 days from date of receipt of the transcript.
If returned, the attached Changes and Signature Page
contains any changes and the reasons therefor;
() was not requested by the deponent or a
party before the completion of the deposition.
I further certify that I am neither attorney
nor counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the
parties to the action in which this testimony was taken.
Further, I am not a relative or employee of any
attorney of record in this cause, nor do I have a
financial interest in the action.
Subscribed and sworn to on this the 1st day of
December, 2024.


RENÉE M. BENCICH, CSR, RPR
California License No. 11946

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT

VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF

DR. VICTOR ADEYEYE

VOLUME 2

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Via Zoom Video Conferencing

6:00 a.m.

Reported by: Rachel N. Barkume, CSR, RMR, CRR
Certificate No. 13657

Dr. Victor Adeyeye

April 22, 2025

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Cliff Gonshery

ALSO PRESENT:

Eguono Erhun, Chevron Nigeria Limited

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1 why maybe, maybe not. Alleviating the symptoms
2 medically does not equate to addressing the dissection,
3 the tearing. That's what I mean by that.

4 BY MS. FLECHSIG:

5 Q. What can you do to alleviate the symptoms of
6 the dissection?

7 A. Give some peripheral beta blockers.

8 Q. And what does that do for someone?

9 A. What's that?

10 Q. Yeah. What does that do for someone who's had
11 a dissection?

12 A. That would reduce the symptoms of pain,
13 excruciating pain, that individual would be having.

14 Q. Okay. Does it -- does it slow their risk of
15 death from occurring while they await surgery?

16 Or does it have any other benefits?

17 A. No. No. It confers no benefit of survival on
18 such individual.

19 Q. Understood. Okay.

20 Have you ever treated a patient whose dilated
21 aortic root has dissected?

22 A. None of note.

23 Q. Okay. Sorry, you said "none of note."

24 There's -- there's none that you have
25 treated?

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1 A. No. No. None.

2 Q. Okay. Have you ever treated someone with a
3 dilated aortic root that ruptured?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Okay. Okay. I want to ask about Mark Snookal,
6 the plaintiff in this lawsuit.

7 Have you reviewed the complaint in this
8 lawsuit?

9 A. How?

10 Q. Just -- yeah, have you reviewed the actual
11 complaint of the lawsuit, so at any time --

12 A. I'm not -- I'm not privy to that document.

13 Q. Okay. When did you first hear the name Mark
14 Snookal?

15 A. 2019.

16 Q. Okay. And how did you -- how did you hear
17 about him?

18 A. Via e-mail communication between myself and the
19 occupational health unit; Dr. Femi Pitan, you mentioned,
20 Dr. Asekomeh, Dr. Henry Aiwuyo.

21 Q. I'm sorry. Who was the third one that you
22 said?

23 A. Via e-mail communication --

24 Q. Oh --

25 A. -- with myself and the occupational health

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1 Q. So we're at the top of Exhibit A now.

2 A. Yes, that's my response. That's the summary of
3 my own search.

4 Q. Okay. So there's this August 5th, 2019,
5 e-mail, and this is your summary of your research;
6 correct?

7 A. Yeah. Yeah. Yes.

8 Q. Okay. There's -- is there anything that you
9 know today that would change your opinion of what you
10 expressed in that August 5th, 2019, e-mail?

11 A. I don't get your question, please. Again,
12 please. Repeat again, please.

13 Q. Oh, I'm sorry. I think my internet --
14 apologies. Yeah.

15 I just was asking is the opinion you expressed
16 in this August 5th, 2019, e-mail -- is that consistent
17 still with your opinion today of Mark Snookal's cardiac
18 condition?

19 A. Very consistent. Very consistent.

20 Q. Okay. So you said that you undertook some
21 research to inform this opinion.

22 What did you do to find -- what did you do to
23 research?

24 A. First of all, I search for such cases in
25 Nigeria, and that brought me to a publication I was part

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1 of the author; 2,501 echocardiographic studies for
2 individuals with heart conditions. I mean 2,501 cardiac
3 patients, what did we find out is their cardiac
4 condition. Why is that so? That is so, for me, to have
5 an idea how many of such cases do we see in real life.

6 And I found out that it's quite very rare.
7 This publication, which I'm part of the author, is
8 available -- can be made available to you. Out of
9 2,501, no such case, and that tells you the reality of
10 the condition, the limited cases of such condition to
11 warrant physicians' experience.

12 Then I also found out that most of those cases
13 were from autopsy, not in real life. I look at
14 literature and I saw that, oh, even for those cases
15 being found, they were found at autopsy. Those are
16 local cases. And I also look at a U.S. study between
17 1999 and 2016, then; the epidemiology of fatal ruptured
18 aortic aneurysms in the United States. Epidemiology of
19 fatal ruptured aortic aneurysms in the United States,
20 1999 to 2016.

21 This also gives me an idea how much of
22 mortality is still with this condition. So putting all
23 these things together, I was able to have my own
24 opinion; which, looking at literature from 2019 to now,
25 they say the same; and I am able to advise, as put in

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1 this, my write-up, on such cases. Thank you.

2 Q. Okay. Thank you for that. I just wanted to
3 clarify.

4 How many -- how many studies did you review?

5 It sounds like there were two. Or am I missing some?

6 A. Okay. Two local studies. I can remember one
7 now. And one foreign study. The foreign study is the
8 one in United States, 1999 to 2016, epidemiology of
9 fatal ruptured aortic aneurysms in United States, 1999
10 to 2016. The local one I remember vividly was an
11 article I also am part of the co-authors, the 2,501
12 cases echocardiographic studies done in the Southwestern
13 Nigeria. This can be made available to you if you are
14 so interested, or you can go online and search there.
15 Thank you.

16 Q. Okay. So the local study using 2,051
17 echocardiographic studies --

18 A. 2,501. '501.

19 Q. 2,501?

20 A. '01. '501, yes.

21 Q. Sorry. Okay. 2,501 local studies.

22 You said it's reviewing that number of
23 echocardiographic studies; correct?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. But it's not specifically on people with

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1 dilated aortic roots; it's just echocardiographic
2 studies generally; correct?

3 A. Yes. That's a sample study showing us that
4 that condition is rare. If you do echo on 2,501
5 individual and cannot have one case, that tells you it's
6 quite rare. And the available local studies of such
7 cases are at postmortem, autopsy, and that gives a lot
8 of clinical information. Thank you.

9 Q. Understood.

10 (Reporter clarification.)

11 BY MS. FLECHSIG:

12 Q. The postmortem studies, is -- strike that.

13 So you said of the 2,501 echocardiographic
14 studies done locally, none of those showed patients with
15 a dilated aortic root; correct?

16 A. Correct. Correct.

17 Q. Okay. Is it fair to say that dilated aortic
18 roots are more rare in Nigeria than in the United
19 States?

20 A. You cannot say that because we've not actually
21 compare region to region. What we can say is most cases
22 are found at autopsy.

23 Q. Understood.

24 A. Because patients don't often live to warrant
25 such evaluation for treatment and what have you. I

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1 don't know if I'm getting my point. So it takes high
2 index of suspicion and a standard screening methods for
3 you to dictate. But any country where autopsy is top
4 notch, you can see more of such.

5 Q. Understood. Did any of the studies you
6 referred to refer to a patient's risk of mortality when
7 they do have a dilated aortic root?

8 A. Mortality is over 90 percent.

9 Q. So -- okay. So let me clarify.

10 You referred to -- the studies referred to
11 someone with a dilated aortic root having a 90 percent
12 risk of mortality?

13 A. Over 90 percent risk of mortality.

14 Q. Is that a risk of mortality once they have
15 suffered a dissection or rupture?

16 A. That is once they have suffered a dissection or
17 rupture.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. The mortality --

20 Q. I am so sorry. Go ahead.

21 A. In other words, when they suffer a dissection
22 or rupture; the chance, the likelihood of that is over
23 90 percent.

24 Q. Understood. Which of the studies that you
25 cited referred to that statistic?

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1 A. Some of the local studies revealed before my
2 submission.

3 Q. Okay. Did any of the studies you referred to
4 discuss the overall risk of a rupture or dissection
5 occurring when someone has a dilated aortic root?

6 A. The risk of rupture or dissection is done based
7 on those centers, those regions that were able to pool
8 patient with aortic dilatation, and they were able to
9 put some theory to measure the risk. Like I told you,
10 in our setting, it is not a common occurrence.

11 If I are to do 2,501 echocardiography, and I
12 cannot find one, so how many will I do to have a sizable
13 number to apportion risk? I don't know if I'm clear on
14 that.

15 Q. Yeah, I think so. What I'm trying to
16 understand is, I guess, did you refer to anything that
17 gave you a sense of how often someone with a dilated
18 aortic root has a rupture or a dissection?

19 A. Yes. Yes. Some of them in that e-mail link,
20 if you click on them and read, you will see the Western
21 literatures studying the risk of dissection, the risk of
22 rupture, and the attendant mortality related.

23 Q. In the -- you're referring to the University of
24 Calgary article that Dr. Aiwuyo linked to?

25 A. Those links.

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1 descriptions of the individual. How do I mean? If
2 somebody has frequent arrhythmias from palpitations and
3 what have you, and they ask me, what is your opinion on
4 this? I can say, oh, this person stands a risk of
5 disturbing arrhythmia with chest pain, with difficulty
6 with breathing. And based on this, there are various
7 aids, put them on this kind of drug, to be seen with
8 this frequency, once a month, once in two weeks, once in
9 three months, once in six months.

10 They are the one who understand the works they
11 do. Oh, this one is going to climb crane. This one is
12 going to be in the air. This one is going to be in the
13 boat. This one is going to be on the sea. And they
14 will now be able -- being doctors, too -- to match the
15 opinion of an expat with the work of the very
16 individual. Thank you.

17 Q. So what kind of information do you consider
18 when you're assessing the risk of an individual's
19 cardiovascular condition?

20 A. The information I consider are patient orient
21 on point results -- cardiovascular results. And there
22 are three or four main results that are important to
23 consider their cardiovascular -- for their
24 cardiovascular status, either their ECG, their echo, or
25 other imagings.

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1 These are the things that are necessary to put
2 things together and make an opinion. Because most
3 cardiovascular opinions are based on data from very
4 specific cardiac values, cardiac results, not based on
5 is he genotype, is he BMI, is he dark or white or blue
6 or black. No. Thank you.

7 Q. Aside from your own medical expertise, are
8 there guidelines you're required to follow when
9 assessing the risk of an individual's cardiovascular
10 condition?

11 A. Yes. There are guidelines.

12 Q. What kind of --

13 A. Guidelines that are developed by reputable
14 institution, for example, Nigeria -- potentially Society
15 of Nigeria -- Nigerian Cardiac Society. These bodies
16 develop guidelines that help us to make informed
17 decision.

18 Also on international scale, there are European
19 Society of Cardiology, American College of Cardiology,
20 Canadian College, and they all have guidelines available
21 for us. And these are the things that we look into at
22 the time we have to make decisions, and these are
23 available to everyone on websites, on subscriptions, in
24 journals, and at our conferences. We look at all these
25 guidelines, merit, demerit, what have you, and

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1 deliberate. Thank you.

2 Q. And when you're making your assessment of risk
3 relating to an individual's cardiovascular condition, is
4 any part of your compensation based on the conclusions
5 you reach in your assessments?

6 A. Compensation how? I don't get.

7 Q. Your -- your pay. Your salary compensation.

8 Is any of that based on the conclusions that
9 you reach in your assessments of risk?

10 A. We've not gotten to that. That's not part
11 of -- the salary structure -- of the medical, no. We
12 are not paid by the opinion you make, the recommendation
13 you make, and all that. No. No. No. That has no
14 bearing, any payslip or any payment structure. It's
15 just an advisory.

16 And for your information, please, it's like a
17 lawyer who has a case and he knows of a colleague who
18 has and do such case and just share opinion, what's your
19 advice on this? Which, of course, the person goes into
20 the archive or the legal literature and give opinion on
21 that. That is not with remunerations because, like I
22 said, this is teamwork. It is part of what I'm
23 supposed -- when they ask for my opinion on such cases
24 about a impression I had, I give.

25 Same way a surgeon who want to fix bone from

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1 For an individual with an aortic dilatation, is
2 the occurrence of a dissection or a rupture predictable?

3 MS. FLECHSIG: Objection. Incomplete
4 hypothetical.

5 THE WITNESS: Science give us guidelines on
6 monitoring of such patient and give us opportunity to
7 make some prediction, and that's why we're able to
8 classify the risk for any individual with aortic
9 dilatation. The risk of dilatation -- the risk of
10 dissection, I mean, the risk of rupture is this, this,
11 this, this, based on these diameter, this dimension.
12 That's what science tells us. Thank you.

13 BY MS. FAN:

14 Q. Did you speak with Mr. Snookal in making your
15 assessment of his risk relating to his cardiovascular
16 condition?

17 A. No. No. I didn't do medical consultation with
18 Mr. Snookal. No medical consultation with Mr. Snookal.
19 I've said it over and over.

20 Q. And in your assessment of Mr. Snookal's risk
21 relating to his cardiovascular condition, did your
22 assessment of risk require a conversation with
23 Mr. Snookal?

24 A. Not at all. Not at all. Not at all.

25 Q. Why was -- why wasn't it necessary to speak

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1 with Mr. Snookal regarding his condition in order to
2 assess the risk of his condition?

3 A. The beauty of medical science is ability to
4 prognosticate based on available evidence. In
5 Mr. Snookal's case, all is required for any cardiologist
6 all over the world to put him into any risk is for that
7 cardiologist to have an idea of the dimension of his
8 dilatation.

9 Any cardiologist anywhere in the world will
10 give you a risk value without seeing Mr. Snookal. Just
11 like the other case I mentioned, any individual with
12 cardiac failure with ejection fraction, EF, 30 or 40
13 percent has likelihood of being dead 50 percent within
14 six month to one year. This what science has gone for,
15 over the decades, in cardiology. So I don't need to
16 speak to Mr. Snookal to make that assertion of the risk
17 level. Thank you.

18 Q. And did you speak with Mr. Snookal's
19 cardiologist in making your assessment of his risk
20 relating to his condition?

21 A. The answer is no.

22 Q. And in your --

23 A. Because -- say what?

24 Q. I didn't mean to cut you off. Go ahead,
25 Doctor.

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1 A. I do not need to have that conversation with
2 Mr. Snookal's cardiologist. Please note and please
3 note, Mr. Snookal and his cardiologist are relating with
4 doctor in occupational health, not with me as a
5 cardiologist. So there is no room for that.

6 And I use the word "blinded opinion," without
7 bias. An opinion is blinded to remove elements of bias,
8 elements of conflicts of interests. That is why it has
9 to be blinded. And that is why some parameters like the
10 liver function test, E/U/Creatinine and others, were not
11 privy -- were not made available to me because I do not
12 stand in that occupational health department to
13 understand all the protocol and do their risk
14 assessments for patients' suitability to work called
15 fitness for duty. Thank you.

16 Q. In other words, you were making an independent
17 assessment of risk --

18 A. Excellent.

19 Q. -- regarding --

20 A. Excellent.

21 Q. -- the cardiological --

22 A. Excellent.

23 Q. -- condition.

24 A. Excellent. That is summary. Thank you.

25 Q. And you also testified earlier that you didn't

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1 just the third buckets; and that very third bucket, just
2 a small part of it is cardiac. The renal function is
3 there, the liver function is there, the brain function
4 is there, the metabolic is there. It's just that
5 cardiac. That is required of me to make an opinion.

6 It is there in occupational health who has
7 everything in these three buckets to make their own
8 informed decision on fitness for duty. Thank you.

9 Q. And these other types of inform- -- medical
10 information regarding Mr. Snookal that is being
11 considered by occupational health but which was not
12 available to you -- all of that other information, like
13 you said, was not necessary to your assessment of his
14 cardiological risk; is that right?

15 A. Yeah.

16 MS. FLECHSIG: Objection as to form, including
17 assumes facts not in evidence.

18 THE WITNESS: Okay.

19 BY MS. FAN:

20 Q. And if you had additional information regarding
21 Mr. Snookal's family history and their medical
22 conditions, would that have --

23 A. Excellent.

24 Q. -- would that have impacted your assessment --

25 A. Excellent question.

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1 Q. -- of Mr. Snookal's risk --

2 A. Excellent question.

3 Q. -- of --

4 A. Excellent question. Excellent question.

5 It's --

6 MS. FLECHSIG: I'm sorry, form objection.

7 Incomplete hypothetical.

8 THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes. Yes. It's
9 hypothetical. But there is a science to this
10 hypothesis. And the science to this is -- the medical
11 science of this is an individual who has aortic root
12 dilatation of 4.2, 4.5 centimeter with a positive family
13 history of Marfan syndrome, Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, this
14 individual is a chronic smoker, this person has coronary
15 heart disease, this individual has to do heavy lifting
16 of objects, that could have worsened -- emphasis
17 "worsened" -- this risk assessment.

18 That could have worsened the submission of the
19 risk -- will have increased, will have been worsened if
20 all these are present in that individual. I can only
21 get all of these when you do a full medical
22 consultation: The family tree, the metabolic panel, and
23 his social history. These could have worsened the risk
24 because history of all of those, smoking, positive
25 family history, connective tissue disorder, like I

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1 mentioned, the Marfan, the Ehlers-Danlos -- all of them
2 worsen the aortic dilatation, because the risk of
3 dissection or ruptures multiplies in multiple folds if
4 any of these are present. Thank you.

5 BY MS. FAN:

6 Q. Understood. So to understand -- to make sure I
7 understand that correctly, if you had additional
8 information, aside from the -- aside from the imaging
9 reports, it would have -- it would have indicated a
10 higher level of risk for Mr. Snookal; is that correct?

11 A. Yes. And I mentioned those factors that could
12 have increased the level of risk if they are there. I
13 mentioned, like, five. If they are there, the level of
14 risk will have increased if they are positive from
15 medical consultation.

16 THE REPORTER: Counsel, are we at a good break
17 spot?

18 MS. FAN: Yes. We can take a quick break here.
19 What are we thinking, five or ten minutes?

20 THE REPORTER: I think it's been an hour, so if
21 we could do ten.

22 MS. FAN: Okay.

23 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off the record. Time now,
24 8:43 a.m.

25 (Off the record.)

Dr. Victor Adeyeye

April 22, 2025

1 cases in Escravos, and no full complements of medical
2 specialists in Escravos. Thank you.

3 Q. That means there's no cardiologist on site in
4 Escravos; is that right?

5 A. There is no designated cardiologist, no
6 designated surgeon, no designated anesthetist in
7 Escravos.

8 Q. Earlier you mentioned that if an individual
9 experiences a dissection, they require immediate
10 intervention within a couple of minutes.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Are those interventions available in Escravos?

13 A. No. No. No, even in Warri, not available, not
14 talk of Escravos.

15 Q. Then you mentioned interventions for a rupture.
16 Are those available in Escravos?

17 A. No. No. No. No.

18 Q. And so based on what you know of Mr. Snookal's
19 cardiovascular condition and the medical resources
20 available in Escravos, if Mr. Snookal had experienced a
21 cardiovascular complication in Escravos, would it have
22 led to his death?

23 MS. FLECHSIG: Objection as to form.

24 THE WITNESS: Hypothetical, if I may say, but
25 it could have led to his death. Why? Because both the

Dr. Victor Adeyeye

April 22, 2025

1 medical personnel -- medical facility, medical personnel
2 required, both in Escravos and in Warri location, are
3 not there.

4 MS. FAN: Understood. Thank you. I don't have
5 any further questions at this point.

6 MS. FLECHSIG: I just have a couple of
7 follow-up. It will be -- I think it will be very quick.
8 If I may.

9 EXAMINATION

10 BY MS. FLECHSIG:

11 Q. So, Dr. Adeyeye, you testified about, sort of,
12 a golden period during which someone who has suffered a
13 dissection or rupture has the best odds of survival
14 through medical intervention; is that correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Okay. And you said that someone generally
17 needs to get care within minutes if they suffer a
18 rupture; correct?

19 A. Yes. Yes.

20 Q. And that's true no matter where the person's
21 rupture occurs. In other words, if they're in the
22 United States, they need to get care within minutes. If
23 they're in Escravos --

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. -- they need to get care within minutes.

Dr. Victor Adeyeye

April 22, 2025

CERTIFICATE OF STENOGRAPHIC REPORTER

I, RACHEL N. BARKUME, a Certified Shorthand
Reporter of the State of California, hereby certify that
the witness in the foregoing deposition,

DR. VICTOR ADEYEYE,
was by me duly sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth,
and nothing but the truth in the within-entitled cause;
that said deposition was taken at the time and place
therein named; that the testimony of said witness was
stenographically reported by me, a disinterested person,
and was thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

Pursuant to Federal Rule 30(e), transcript
review was requested.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or
attorney for either or any of the parties to said
deposition, nor in any way interested in the outcome of
the cause named in said caption.

DATED: May 6, 2025.

Rachel N. Barkume

Rachel N. Barkume, CSR No. 13657, RMR, CRR

EXHIBIT B

Dr. Ujomoti Akintunde

October 31, 2024

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

MARK SNOOKAL, an individual,

Plaintiff, Case No.

vs. 2:23-cv-6302-HDV-AJR

CHEVRON USA, INC., a California
Corporation, and DOES 1 through 10,
inclusive,

Defendants.

DEPOSITION OF DR. UJOMOTI AKINTUNDE,
commencing on Thursday, October 31, 2024, at 8:00 a.m.,
Pacific Time, held via Zoom videoconference, all
participants appearing remotely before Lauren Ramseyer,
Certified Shorthand Reporter, CSR No. 14004.

Dr. Ujomoti Akintunde

October 31, 2024

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I N D E X

WITNESS:

DR. UJOMOTI AKINTUNDE

EXAMINATION:

PAGE

BY MS. FLECHSIG

5, 85

BY MS. FAN

56

DEPOSITION EXHIBITS:

PAGE

Exhibit 1

Email (CUSA000771-775)

21

Exhibit 2

Article Entitled "Yearly Rupture
or Dissection Rates for Thoracic
Aortic Aneurysms, Simple
Prediction Based on Size" (CUSA
776-787)

71

Exhibit 3

Article Entitled "Risk of
Rupture or Dissection in
Descending Thoracic Aortic
Aneurysm" (CUSA778-797)

73

Dr. Ujomoti Akintunde

October 31, 2024

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APPEARANCES:

FOR THE PLAINTIFF:

ALLRED, MAROKO & GOLDBERG

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sfan@sheppardmullin.com

ALSO PRESENT: EGUONO ERHUN

Dr. Ujomoti Akintunde

October 31, 2024

1 ago.

2 Q. As you sit here today, though, you don't have
3 any memory of discussing it with Dr. Asekomeh other than
4 in this email?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. Okay. Other than Dr. Asekomeh, do you
7 remember speaking about Mr. Snookal and his medical
8 condition with anyone else, other than your lawyers?

9 A. Dr. Adeyeye, the other cardiologist.

10 Q. Is Dr. Adeyeye your colleague in Lagos?

11 A. He works in Chevron Warri, Warri Hospital.

12 Q. Okay. When did you discuss Mr. Snookal with
13 Dr. Adeyeye?

14 A. Within the last couple of weeks. Recently,
15 within the last two to three weeks or so.

16 Q. Okay. Was that one conversation that you had
17 with Dr. Adeyeye about Mr. Snookal?

18 MS. FAN: I apologize, Counsel. You broke up
19 for me. Would you mind repeating your question?

20 BY MS. FLECHSIG:

21 Q. Yeah. How many conversations did you have
22 with Dr. Adeyeye about Mr. Snookal?

23 A. One or two maximum.

24 Q. What did you discuss during those
25 conversations?

Dr. Ujomoti Akintunde

October 31, 2024

1 to ask you some questions about that.

2 So why did you feel you would be more
3 comfortable if he was on a beta blocker?

4 A. A beta blocker will slow down the rate of the
5 increase in size of his dilated aortic root. It will
6 slow down the rate of increase, and essentially make him
7 safer, so that was my primary priority, that the patient
8 is safer.

9 Q. Why does it matter the rate of growth of the
10 dilated aortic root?

11 A. The rate of growth correlates positively with
12 the rate of dissection and rupture.

13 Q. In other words, the faster it's growing, the
14 more likely it is to dissect or rupture?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. If a dilated aortic root is stable in size
17 over time, does that, therefore, indicate that the rate
18 of dissection or rupture is decreased?

19 MS. FAN: Objection. Argumentative.

20 THE WITNESS: Can you say that again, please?

21 BY MS. FLECHSIG:

22 Q. Yeah. So in other words, if the size of the
23 aortic root dilation is stable over time, that would
24 indicate a negative risk factor; there would be less
25 risk that it will dissect or rupture?

Dr. Ujomoti Akintunde

October 31, 2024

1 MS. FAN: Objection. Argumentative.

2 THE WITNESS: Well, size is important, so the
3 risk is lower that it would dissect or rupture, but it
4 may also -- that may also occur, even at the current
5 size; that is why there is a risk category to it. So
6 you really want to make sure, like I said, as a
7 physician, my priority one is the health and wellbeing
8 of every patient, so I also want to make sure all the
9 factors that may potentially increase the risk of this
10 person are doing well, are put into perspective and
11 addressed.

12 BY MS. FLECHSIG:

13 Q. In your email did you intend to express any
14 opinion about whether it was safe for Mr. Snookal to
15 work in Escravos?

16 A. That's not within my sphere of work. My
17 communication was strictly cardiology, about the signs,
18 and its possible issues that may arise. Nothing within
19 my sphere of work allows me to determine suitability for
20 work or otherwise.

21 Q. For someone with an aortic root of
22 4.2 centimeters, is that a situation where you would
23 recommend surgical intervention?

24 A. I would not recommend surgical intervention at
25 that size except he didn't have symptoms.

Dr. Ujomoti Akintunde

October 31, 2024

1 foundation. Vague and ambiguous.

2 THE WITNESS: It would be higher than the
3 person who does not have a dilated aortic root and is
4 otherwise well, yes.

5 BY MS. FAN:

6 Q. So you assessed Mr. Snookal's risk of
7 complication with his dilated aortic root to be low.
8 What did you base your assessment on?

9 A. The outcomes of people from -- from many -- I
10 mean, experience on literature, the outcome of people in
11 that category, based on scientific literature.

12 Q. When you say outcomes, what are you referring
13 to?

14 A. Adverse outcomes, adverse aortic outcomes and
15 death.

16 Q. I see. So when you say you based it on your
17 knowledge of medical literature regarding his condition,
18 what medical literature are you referring to?

19 A. I read a lot of articles and medical
20 materials, various kinds, you know, in my -- in the
21 course of my practice. I come across different reading
22 materials or texts.

23 Q. At the time that you made your assessment of
24 Mr. Snookal's risk of complication, were you aware that
25 his cardiologist had quoted his risk of complication at

Dr. Ujomoti Akintunde

October 31, 2024

1 Q. Okay. You mentioned you based your assessment
2 of Mr. Snookal's risk of complication on your knowledge
3 of medical literature and his imaging reports. Did you
4 speak --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- with Mr. Snookal -- I apologize.

7 Did you speak with Mr. Snookal in making your
8 assessment?

9 MS. FLECHSIG: Asked and answered.

10 THE WITNESS: No.

11 BY MS. FAN:

12 Q. And in your opinion, did your assessment of
13 Mr. Snookal's risk require a conversation with
14 Mr. Snookal?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Why not?

17 A. The aortic size is a very strong predictor of
18 outcomes, and I was already given the aortic size.

19 Q. Okay. Earlier -- strike that.

20 Have you ever treated a rupture resulting from
21 a dilated aortic root?

22 MS. FLECHSIG: Asked and answered.

23 THE WITNESS: No.

24 BY MS. FAN:

25 Q. And have you ever treated --

Dr. Ujomoti Akintunde

October 31, 2024

1 could you state it again, please?

2 BY MS. FAN:

3 Q. Yeah, of course. If Mr. Snookal experienced a
4 cardiovascular complication relating to his aortic root,
5 what interventions are required?

6 MS. FLECHSIG: Same objections, but also
7 incomplete hypothetical. Go ahead.

8 THE WITNESS: So he would need to be medevaced
9 immediately to the center where he could have access to
10 definitive care.

11 BY MS. FAN:

12 Q. And to be clear, the kind of cardiovascular
13 complications that Mr. Snookal would experience with an
14 aortic root would be a rupture, or dissection; is that
15 correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And the third complication you mentioned
18 relating to a dilated aortic root was death?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. So, of course, if a death had occurred, no
21 interventions would be possible.

22 MS. FLECHSIG: Incomplete hypothetical.

23 THE WITNESS: Yes.

24 BY MS. FAN:

25 Q. Based on your knowledge of the medical

Dr. Ujomoti Akintunde

October 31, 2024

1 facilities in Escravos, would they be able to support
2 Mr. Snookal if he suffered a cardiological event?

3 MS. FLECHSIG: Objection. Incomplete
4 hypothetical. Vague and ambiguous as to cardiac event.

5 THE WITNESS: No.

6 BY MS. FAN:

7 Q. And to clarify, if Mr. Snookal suffered a
8 rupture in -- strike that.

9 If Mr. Snookal experienced a rupture relating
10 to his dilated aortic root in Escravos, based on your
11 knowledge of the medical facilities available, would
12 they be able to support Mr. Snookal in the event of a
13 rupture?

14 MS. FLECHSIG: Objection. Vague and ambiguous
15 as to the meaning of support.

16 THE WITNESS: No.

17 BY MS. FAN:

18 Q. Based on your knowledge of the medical
19 facilities in Escravos, would they be able to support
20 Mr. Snookal if he suffered a dissection relating to his
21 dilated aortic root?

22 MS. FLECHSIG: Objection. Vague and ambiguous
23 as to the meaning of support. Incomplete hypothetical.

24 THE WITNESS: No.

25

Dr. Ujomoti Akintunde

October 31, 2024

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, Lauren Ramseyer, Certified Shorthand Reporter licensed in the State of California, License No. 14004, hereby certify that the deponent was by me first duly sworn and the foregoing testimony was reported by me and was thereafter transcribed with Computer-Aided Transcription; that the foregoing is a full, complete, and true record of said proceedings.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties in the foregoing proceeding and caption named or in any way interested in the outcome of the cause in said caption.

The dismantling, unsealing, or unbinding of the original transcript will render the reporter's certificate null and void.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this day: November 19, 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lauren Ramseyer", is written over a horizontal line.

Lauren Ramseyer, CSR No. 14004

EXHIBIT C

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA - WESTERN DIVISION

MARK SNOOKAL, an individual,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.) NO. 2:23-cv-6302-
) HDV-AJR
CHEVRON USA, INC., a California)
Corporation, and DOES 1 through)
10, inclusive,)
)
Defendants.)
_____)

Videotaped deposition of ALEXANDER

R. MARMUREANU, M.D., Witness, taken remotely

on behalf of Defendants commencing at 2:04

p.m. on Wednesday, January 29, 2025, before John

M. Taxter, Certified Shorthand Reporter No. 3579

in and for the State of California, a Registered

Professional Reporter.

1 APPEARANCES OF COUNSEL:

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14 SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP
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19 VIDEOGRAPHER:

20 JODY PADILLA
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1 A It's exactly what it says. But I will 14:35:07
2 add today that, even if his work was not 14:35:09
3 desk-based and involved a lot of physical 14:35:13
4 activities and would have been physically 14:35:17
5 demanding, I still didn't find any evidence to 14:35:19
6 suggest that his condition would affect his job 14:35:24
7 performance or pose any immediate risk. 14:35:26

8 Q And when you say a "desk job," did you 14:35:28
9 get that from the job description? 14:35:30

10 A I have no idea. I don't remember. 14:35:32

11 Q Do you remember if that's something that 14:35:33
12 the -- your -- the attorneys told you? 14:35:36

13 A I don't remember. 14:35:36

14 Q And I'm going to highlight another 14:35:44
15 sentence here -- whoops -- sorry -- and it's this 14:35:46
16 first sentence of the third paragraph on page 6. 14:35:51
17 It says: 14:35:55

18 "In conclusion, the evidence 14:35:55
19 overwhelmingly supports that 14:35:57
20 Mr. Snookal's aneurysm does not 14:35:59
21 pose any clinically significant 14:36:02
22 risk...given" -- "particularly 14:36:03
23 given his travel to Nigeria every 14:36:08
24 other month." 14:36:11

25 So my question is when you say 14:36:12

1 "clinically significant risk," what do you mean by 14:36:13
2 that? 14:36:17

3 A That's exactly what I say, "clinically 14:36:17
4 significant risk." I could add today, now that 14:36:20
5 you asked me, in my opinion, the evidence based on 14:36:22
6 my training, practice, education, experience, and 14:36:28
7 the nine articles I provided, it shows that the 14:36:30
8 incidence of aortic dissection rupture in someone 14:36:33
9 with his comorbidities and the size of the aortic 14:36:38
10 aneurysm, ascending aorta, would be probably 14:36:43
11 around .1 percent. So this is ten times less than 14:36:46
12 one percent. 14:36:49

13 So as I sit here today, it is my opinion 14:36:50
14 that those issues, the so-called annulus which it 14:36:54
15 is minimally large, probably the upper limit of 14:36:58
16 normal, does not pose any risk. And I did say 14:37:02
17 here "particularly given his travel to Nigeria 14:37:05
18 every other month." The reality of, I could add, 14:37:09
19 given his travel to anywhere in the world every 14:37:14
20 week, it's just there is no risk. So I don't want 14:37:17
21 you to link it to the -- to the Nigeria. I don't 14:37:20
22 believe that -- clearly, he's got some disability. 14:37:25
23 Clearly, he's got the aortic annulus, a little bit 14:37:28
24 enlarged. And I'm going to say four -- at 4.0 is 14:37:31
25 normal. 4.2. The way you look at a CAT scan, 14:37:34

1 was asked. 15:17:32

2 A I did answer. I said not that I 15:17:33

3 remember -- 15:17:35

4 Q Okay. 15:17:35

5 A -- and then I elaborated. 15:17:35

6 MS. KENNEDY: All right. Thank you. 15:17:40

7 All right. I don't have any more questions. I 15:17:40

8 don't know. 15:17:40

9 Dolores, Olivia, do you have any 15:17:43

10 questions? 15:17:44

11 15:17:44

12 EXAMINATION 15:17:44

13 BY MS. LEAL: 15:17:44

14 Q Just one follow-up question. Doctor, 15:17:45

15 Ms. Kennedy asked you if you had spoken with Mark 15:17:49

16 Snookal, and I believe your answer was "no." 15:17:54

17 Is that correct? 15:17:57

18 A That's the best of my recollection. Do 15:17:58

19 you -- refresh my recollection. 15:18:00

20 Q Right. 15:18:01

21 A I don't think I did, no. 15:18:02

22 Q Okay. So would your opinion have 15:18:03

23 changed in any way, had you spoken or interviewed 15:18:05

24 Mr. Snookal? 15:18:09

25 A Absolutely not. My opinions are based 15:18:11

1 on the data, the CT scan, the CT angio, and all 15:18:13
2 the medical records. I can formulate the plan. I 15:18:19
3 don't need to look at the patient or evaluate the 15:18:21
4 patient. It's all the based on the guidelines 15:18:24
5 that I actually provided to you yesterday. It 15:18:26
6 might be today. 15:18:29

7 Q Okay. Thank you. 15:18:30

8 A Thank you. 15:18:31

9 MS. LEAL: Thank you, Doctor. 15:18:31

10 I don't have anything else, Tracey. 15:18:32

11 15:18:32

12 FURTHER EXAMINATION 15:18:32

13 BY MS. KENNEDY: 15:18:32

14 Q Just one follow-up. 15:18:33

15 A Sure. 15:18:34

16 Q Doctor, you said the guidelines you 15:18:35
17 provided yesterday. 15:18:36

18 Are you referring to the Exhibit 3 I 15:18:37
19 just showed you? 15:18:39

20 A That -- that's correct. Actually, that 15:18:40
21 I sent today. 15:18:42

22 Q Okay. 15:18:42

23 A It's the main part of that. I wrote it. 15:18:45

24 And, again, if you feel that was provided to you 15:18:46

25 and being late and I understand and I agree, and I 15:18:48

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) SS.
2 COUNTY OF VENTURA)

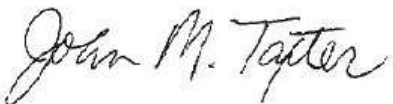
3 I, John M. Taxter, a California Certified
4 Shorthand Reporter, Certificate No. 3579, a
5 Registered Professional Reporter, do hereby
6 certify: That the foregoing proceedings were
7 taken before me at the time and place therein set
8 forth, at which time the deponent was put under
9 oath by me; that the testimony of the deponent and
10 all objections made at the time of the examination
11 were recorded stenographically by me and were
12 thereafter transcribed; and that the foregoing is
13 a true and correct transcript of my shorthand
14 notes so taken.

15 I further certify that I am neither
16 counsel for nor related to any party to said
17 action.

18 The dismantling, unsealing, or unbinding
19 of the original transcript will render the
20 Reporter's Certificate null and void.

21 Pursuant to Federal Rule 30(e),
22 transcript review was requested.

23 Dated February 11, 2025.

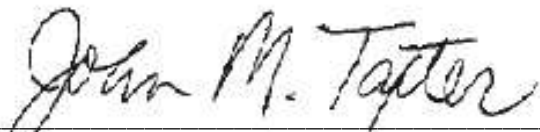
24 
25 JOHN M. TAXTER
California Certified Shorthand
Reporter No. 3579, RPR

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I, John M. Taxter, Certified Shorthand Reporter,
CSR No. 3579, hereby certify:

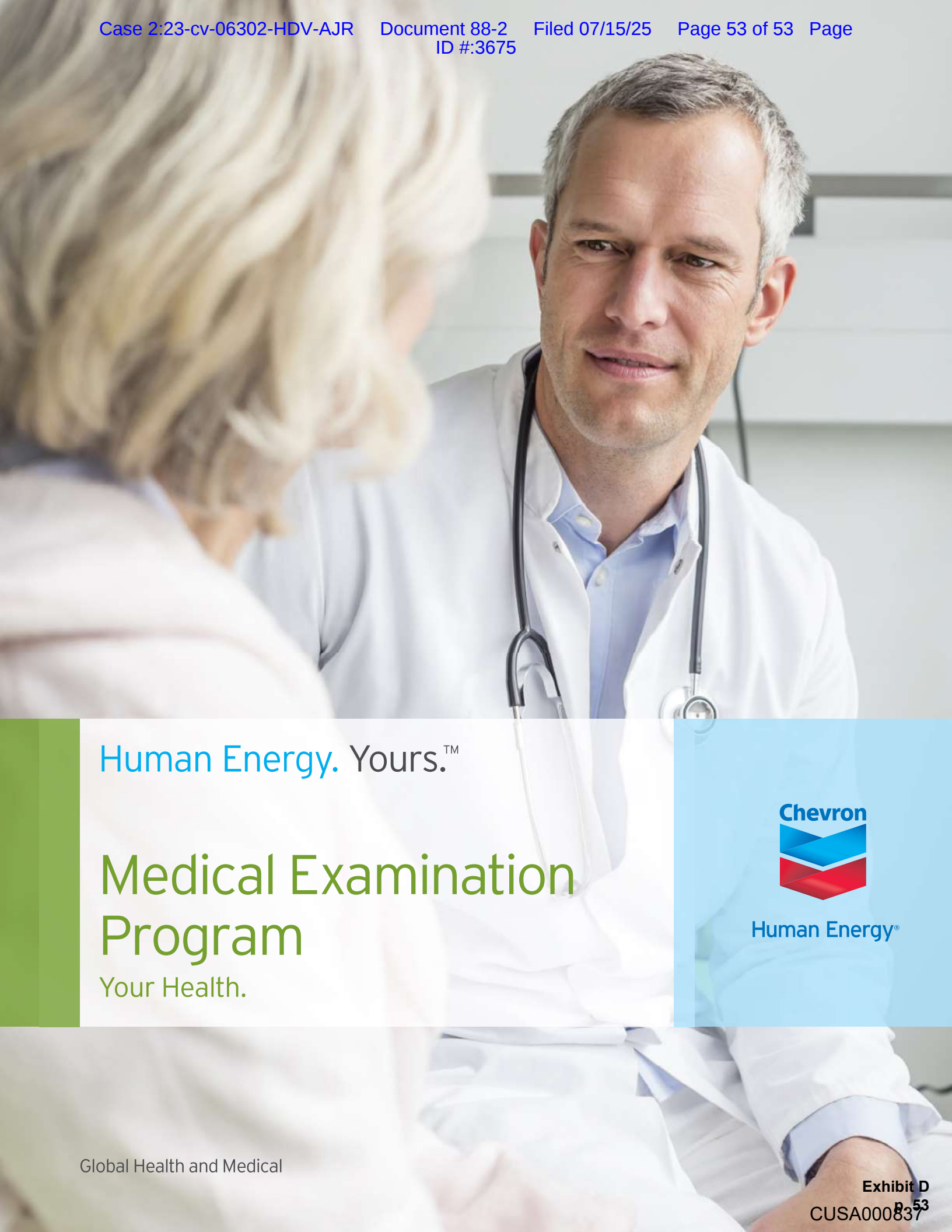
The foregoing is a true and correct copy of the
original transcript of the proceedings taken by me
as thereon stated.

Dated: February 13, 2025



John Taxter, CSR No. 3579

EXHIBIT D



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